

Star-flowered Solomon's Seal, *Vagnera
stellata* (L.) Morong, on Eastern
Long Island, N. Y.

ROY LATHAM

A note in *Torrey*, July-Aug., 1929, by Mr. Raymond H. Torrey, published a record for this species growing in sand dunes in Sunken Meadow, Long Island and considered it a rare occurrence in his experience.

I would record here that the species is quite general and common to abundant on eastern Long Island, occurring on both forks. I have always considered and recorded the plant one of the common species in the flora of the Southold township. Dune and beach sands are its common habitat in this region and it frequently straggles out into sandy brackish swamps. In Orient where the species is certainly abundant it is more general in distribution than elsewhere on the north shore. In Orient on the beach sands between Gardiner's and Long Beach Bays the plant grows in large thrifty beds associated with the red cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*; beach plum, *Prunus maritima*; bayberry, *Myrica carolinensis*; pitch pine, *Pinus rigida*; post oak, *Quercus stellata*; sea lovage, *Ligusticum scoticum*; sea-side golden-rod *Solidage sempervirens* and many other plants in the flora common of the sea coast. This locality is occasionally washed by flood tides, but very rarely during the growing season.

On the mainland in Orient we find the plant in various situations, but most frequently in dry woodlands. One tract of dry soil covered with a heavy growth of red cedars, which has been cleared since the World War, contained a covering of this Solomon's-seal. The large plants were knee-high and extended over an area of two and one-half acres. The soil is a rich, dry loam—known as the famous Orient potato soil, but extremely acid before being limed.

At Southold and Peconic we find the species in the dune sand, often high and dry, dwarf of growth and struggling to keep above the shifting sands.

We record the species in Mattituck, Riverhead, Calverton and on the Islands of Shelter and Gardiner's.

On the south shore we record the species from Montauk.

Locally common on dune and beach sands at Napeague, Promised Land, Amagansett and westward along the ocean front through Easthampton, Bridgehampton and Southampton. And at Three Mile Harbor westward through the Little Northwest, Sag Harbor, Noyack, North Haven, North Sea and locally common on the dry sands in the hills of the Shinnecock.

ORIENT, N. Y.